MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 NOVEMBER 1982

Iran-Iraq War

Military Activities -- An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed that Iranian forces have "liberated" more than 300 square km of land occupied by Iraqi forces, including 50 km of strategic border heights in southwestern Iran, and have fired on several kilometers of enemy territory. The communique indicated that Iranian deployment in the strategic heights has enabled Iran to place the road linking north and south Iraq in "serious danger," and that the plain east of the Tigris River from Basra to 'Ali al-Gharbi, including the Zubaydah oil region, is within the Iranian forces' firing range. Another communique reported by Tehran radio affirmed that Iranian oil installations in southwest Iran have been "liberated."

The Iraqi culture and information minister denied that Iraq is fighting in Iranian territory, INA reported. A military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio claimed that Iranian efforts to cross the international borders in the Maysan Governorate area failed and that 4,660 Iranians were killed. The communique added that the Iraqi Air Force completely controlled the battleskies on 2 November. However, a 3 November military communique reported by Baghdad radio stated that operations on the front are confined to artillery exchanges. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn visited the central battle sector on 2 November, INA reported.

Mediation -- In an interview with Tehran radio following a Supreme Defense Council session on 1 November, Majlis Speaker and Khomeyni's representative on the council 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that since Iran has made its conditions known, only those mediators who have something new to say should be accepted in the future. On 2 November Hashemi-Rafsanjani spoke in the Majlis, saying in part that "as long as Saddam exists, the word 'peace' should not be used," IRNA reported. He added that the issue of a truce could be brought up once Iran's rights have been met. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn said in Baghdad that his country does not want war, but when it is threatened, it must fight, INA reported.

Lebanon

Government Statement -- A government policy statement, read to the Chamber of Deputies by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and broadcast by Beirut radio, requested the deputies to grant the government exceptional powers until 30 June 1983 to amend, cancel or introduce legislation by decree in a wide range of activities including defense and security. The government would be empowered to reconsider many laws, including those regulating the organization and activities of the public sector and the judiciary. Elsewhere in the statement, Al-Wazzan announced that the government intends to help reconstruct the economy through a 5-year plan and stressed its determination to strengthen the Lebanese Army with "sound organization, sufficient personnel and developed weapons." Reaffirming that the government's immediate goal remains the liberation of Lebanon from the Israeli occupation and the evacuation of all non-Lebanese forces, Al-Wazzan said Lebanon wants to strengthen cordial relations and good neighborly ties with Syria. Palestinians lawfully residing in Lebanon will receive consideration and the right to security and protection under Lebanese law, he added.

Relations With PLO -- President Amin al-Jumayyil met with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf during his recent visit to Morocco, the Gulf paper AL-KHALIJ reported. The paper also asserted that Al-Jumayyil will shortly meet with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Composition of Multinational Force -- Morocco has "approved in principle" a Lebanese request that Moroccan troops be sent to participate in the multinational force currently operating in Lebanon, KUNA reported citing the Lebanese daily AN-NAHAR. Commenting on President al-Jumayyil's talks with Moroccan King Hassan II, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said the dispatch of Moroccan forces is under discussion, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. However, high-ranking Israeli officials cited by Jerusalem radio announced that Israel opposes the inclusion of Moroccan units in the multinational force, although it would consider a request for Egyptian participation. Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir likewise told U.S. Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs Morris Draper that Israel will not agree to the inclusion in the multinational force of units from countries that are hostile to Israel or that have no relations with it, the radio reported.

Security Situtation -- The multinational force and the Lebanese Army deployed in East Beirut early on 3 November, Beirut radio reported. Clashes continued in the Ash-Shuf mountains the previous day, causing further casualties, the radio noted. A Lebanese Army statement broadcast by the radio accused the IDF of preventing Lebanese Army units from entering the area. However, in a report on the IDF's role in maintaining security in the Ash-Shuf area, Jerusalem radio claimed that the Lebanese Army is in "no hurry" to take over the task of peacemaking between the Druze and Christians from the IDF. Meanwhile, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt sent a message to President al-Jumayyil, calling for cohesion to stop the fighting and to foil the "conspiracy" in the mountain area, Beirut radio reported.

Egypt

Relations With Israel -- President Husni Mubarak said at a news conference in Cairo that the United States considers Israel's building of a hotel in Tabah to be a violation of the peace treaty, Cairo radio reported. Mubarak stated that it would be best to settle the Tabah issue through negotiations in which the United States would participate. He added that it would be a "good sign" if Israel ended the Tabah problem, and then autonomy negotiations on new bases could be resumed. Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir averred that Israel is willing to discuss the Tabah dispute, but said that the issue should not be separated from the other problems, Jerusalem radio reported. President Mubarak earlier told an Egyptian political conference that there is no room for war with Israel, MENA reported.

Elat Envoy -- President Mubarak claimed that there is no connection between the recall of the Egyptian envoy in Elat and the start of the negotiations on Tabah, Cairo radio reported. However, he indicated that Egypt will decide the timing of the envoy's return. ITIM claimed that the Egyptian consul plans to return on 10 November.

'Ismat as-Sadat -- The late Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat's stepbrother, 'Ismat as-Sadat, has rejected the charges that he was involved in "illegal activities," AFP reported citing the Egyptian weekly newspaper ASH-SHA'B.

PLO

A Palestinian figure close to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has said that the forthcoming Palestine National Council meeting will not be held unless an "overwhelming majority" agrees to support the official PLO decision to delegate Jordanian King Husayn to speak on behalf of the Palestinians, the Gulf paper AL-KHALIJ reported citing "informed sources."

Libya

Following his visit to the DPRK, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Yugoslavia on a 2-day official visit, TANJUG reported. Meanwhile, Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio announced that Al-Qadhdhafi and DPRK President Kim Il-song signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation that strengthens ties between Libya and the DPRK in political, economic, cultural and military fields.

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NATIONAL GUARD, SARANDOY TROOPS DISCHARGED

LD021844 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Discharge of those troops who have completed their military service in the DRA Armed Forces began today in accordance with an earlier announcement by the armed forces organization department.

Among those discharged were a larger number of heroic troops who pledged not to lay down their weapons of struggle and have voluntarily rejoined the ranks of the armed forces. They have been absorbed as NCO's and officers.

A glorious meeting was held today by the National Guard to mark the troops discharge.

The commander of the National Guard spoke about the importance of armed defense of the gains of the April Revolution, particularly its new development stage. Speaking on behalf of their colleagues, a number of officers and troops then spoke and pledged their readiness to confidently continue the struggle to eliminate and destroy the counterrevolutionaries and to construct a new society in the country.

Likewise, troops of the sarandoy command and operational battalion, Gowr Province, who had successfully completed their military service in the sarandoy and who were eligible for discharge, were discharged today.

At a meeting on this occasion, a number of officers spoke on behalf of the others and once again they pledged to defend the gains of the April Revolution in their civilian life.

OFFICIALS STOP ENLISTMENT OF PASHTUN TRIBESMEN

BK021634 Hong Kong AFP in English 1605 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 2 (AFP) -- Afghan officials released members of Pushtu tribes in the eastern province of Pakitia from the army after tribesmen held a protest demonstration in Kabul, a Western diplomatic source said here today.

Kabul's "tactical retreat" on enlisting Pushtu members was seen here as both evidence of the difficulties President Babrak Karmal's regime is having controlling the turbulent province and possibly a gesture to the tribes, offering them a certain autonomy in exchange for reduced resistance activities, various sources said.

The pro-Soviet Afghan Government broke with a half-century-old tradition of Pushtu freedom from conscription when it began drafting Pushtu tribesmen last month. The move was intended to weaken strong rebel activity in Paktia, which is southeast of Kabul and borders Pakistan.

According to diplomats, Paktia tribal chiefs decided to hold an assembly in the Afghan capital to protest the conscriptions. The assembly, attended by from 2,000 to 3,000 tribesmen, reportedly met for three days, probably last week, in a park in the center of Kabul.

The sources said the army surrounded the assembly and that after lengthy discussion a government official accepted the "temporary suspension" of the conscription and agreed to discharge Paktia men who had been drafted.

According to several sources in Peshawar who are close to the Afghan resistance, the mujahedin have increased their pressure as winter approaches on Soviet-Afghan military posts in Paktia.

A post was seized in Dabguey in mid-August and another, defending a garrison in Khost, was taken about 10 days ago.

The rebels in Paktia, who are organized according to their tribal affiliations, recently launched several attacks inside Khost but are not strong enough to take over the town, the source said.

Meanwhile, Western diplomats said that a second anti-Soviet demonstration took place on October 19 in Kabul. Several hundred workers from the Jangalak factory marched to call for Soviet withdrawal and to express support for the Karmal government.

The demonstration was dispersed without incident, the diplomats said.

In another development, many residents from towns near Kabul hit in heavy bombing last month have taken refuge in the capital or in the mountains.

On the Shomali plateau north of Kabul, 80 percent of the villagers left after their homes were destroyed, the diplomats said.

Finding food is the main problem for residents of the bombed regions. Amin Wardak, the mujahedin leader in the province of Wardak, southwest of Kabul, said harvests this year have only been a third what they were last year and that the rebels were now more concerned with feeding their families than with fighting.

Western diplomats said that in the Panjsher Valley north of Kabul only young and strong men would spend the winter in their villages, which were destroyed in a Soviet offensive in September.

The catastrophic food situation has created a new wave of refugees from Panjsher to Pakistan, resistance sources in Peshawar said.

2,500 FORMER 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' SURRENDER

LD292216 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Revolution teaches the masses during its unfolding, and during its victorious development separates the toiling masses from the enemies of mankind, the homeland and the revolution and places them in the ranks of its defense. On this basis, 2,500 of our compatriots who had been deceived as a result of slanderous enemy propaganda and who stood against the interests of our toiling people in the ranks of the counterrevolutionary bands of SAMA [Afghan People's Liberation Organization] and the so-called Bolboddin Islami Party, have recently surrendered to the revolutionary government in (Mer-Bachakot) district. They realized that the principled policy of our party and of the revolutionary government and the righteousness of the April Revolution particularly its new development stage, and took advantages of the general amnesty decree dated 18 June 1981. They have joined the revolution defense groups to defend the interests of the homeland, the people and the revolution.

A celebration meeting was held this morning to mark this occasion in (Mer-Bachakot) district. The meeting was attended by more than 6,000 working people of Kalakan, (Bala-Qodsar) and (Moshwany) villages and other villages of the district.

The meeting began with expressions of the enthusiasm and ardent feelings of the workers of (Mer-Bachakot) district. The representatives of 2,500 of our compatriots who joined their revolutionary government attended this meeting with their weapons.

A report describes how the meeting began with the recitation of verses from the holy Koran and the playing of the DRA national anthem.

A representative of our country's security forces then spoke and commended this praiseworthy and benevolent action by the deceived brother-compatriots who have returned to the bosom of their revolutionary government. He added: These deceived compatriots who joined the counterrevolutionary bands of SAMA and Golboddin have now voluntarily joined the revolution defense groups of (Mer-Bachakot) district and will defend their homes with their weapons.

AUTHORITIES WARN AGAINST POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

BK030717 Hong Kong AFP in English 0658 GMT 3 Nov 82

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 3 (AFP) -- All Dhaka newspapers today frontpaged a warning from martial law authorities [on] activities under cover of social, cultural or religious functions.

The warning, contained in an official handout, said these "elements" were trying to use seemingly innocent gatherings to promote their political aims at a time when all political activites are banned under martial law. It said the government cannot but take a serious view of the matter and reminded all concerned that organizing processions, raising slogans, holding meetings of a political nature and distributing leaflets containing political materials were punishable under martial law regulations.

In the event of willful violation of such regulations, the government would have no option but to enforce provisions of the regulations, it added.

The handout did not identify the elements involved, but the warning came within a week of a wedding reception organised in Dhaka for the recently married general secretary of the National Socialist Party JSD, Mr Abdur Rab. The reception was attended by a cross-section of people, including politicians and diplomats, according to press reports.

Three months ago, JSD's president, Retired Major M.A. Jalil, a bearded revolutionary and former freedom fighter, also got married and a similar reception was held on that occasion.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ABROAD ADVISED TO RETURN

BK010356 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] The government has decided to take action against 164 government employees who have overstayed abroad for more than 1 year without any sanction or approval. An official handout issued in Dhaka yesterday said it has come to the notice of the government that about 582 government employees of different professions have been overstaying in different countries, and in some cases, even for more than 5 years. The government has taken a serious view of the matter and advised another 418 persons to return within a specific period, failing which, action will be taken against them under the Martial Law Order No 9.

PRC MUSLIM DELEGATION LEADER TALKS TO PRESS

BK02156 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 28 Oct 82 p 1

[Excerpt] Mr Abdur Rahim Latib leader of the visiting Chinese delegation said on Wednesday Bangladesh and China being Third World countries have the common task of building their nations.

Talking to newsmen at a local hotel prior to their departure after nine-day stay Mr Latib said people of China the Muslims in particular have deep affection for the people of Bangladesh. Mr Latib said that they were very much moved by the love extended to them by the people of Bangladesh.

In reply to a question Mr Latib informed that Islam and other religions enjoy full freedom which is protected by the Constitution itself. He said exercise of religious rights were suppressed for nearly a decade ending in 1977-78 all over China. No religion was spared during those days of rule by the Gang of Four preceded by the Cultural Revolution he added. Chinese Muslims total nearly 1.3 crore and apart from a few none of the Muslims are members of the Communist Party he told a questioner. Any Muslim can become a member of Chinese Communist Party.

INDIA-PAKISTAN COMMISSION TO BE FINALIZED IN DEC

BK021603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] The officials of India and Pakistan are to meet on the 23d and 24th of next month in New Delhi for bilateral discussions. They are to finalize the modalities for the establishment of an Indo-Pakistan joint commission as agreed upon by Mrs Gandhi and President Ziaul Haq at their talks yesterday.

The officials are also to consider the Pakistan draft of a nonaggression pact and the Indian draft of a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation.

The dates for the official-level meeting were announced in New Delhi today. The composition of the two delegations is being finalized.

PROTOCOL ON CONSULAR ACCESS SIGNED WITH PAKISTAN

BK021013 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0850 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] An India-Pakistan protocol on consular access was signed in New Delhi 2 November by Natwar Singh, secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, and Riaz Piracha, Pakistan's ambassador to India. The text of the protocol is as follows:

The Government of India and the Government of Pakistan, desirous of furthering the objective of humane treatment to nationals of either country arrested, detained or imprisoned in the other, have agreed to reciprocal consular facilities as follows:

1. Each government will make a determined effort to draw up a comprehensive list of the nationals of the other country under its arrest, detention or imprisonment until the date of this protocol. The lists shall be exchanged as soon as possible.

2. Lists of persons arrested, detained or imprisoned after the date of this protocol shall be exchanged at regular intervals.

3. Each government shall give consular access on a reciprocal basis to nationals of one country under arrest, detention or imprisonment in the other country, provided they are not apprehended for political or security reasons/offences. Requests for such access and the terms thereof shall be considered on the merits of each case by the government arresting the persons or holding detenus/prisoners and the decision on such requests shall be conveyed to the other government within four weeks from the date of receipt of the request.

4. Both governments agree to discuss modalities of release and repatriation of persons who are under their arrest, detention or imprisonment and who have not been convicted on trial or have completed their sentences.

PAKISTAN'S NIAZ NAIK HOLDS TALKS WITH RAO

BK030323 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Nov 82

[Text] Officials of India and Pakistan are to hold talks in New Delhi beginning 23 December to finalize the modalities for the establishment of an India-Pakistan joint commission as agreed upon by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at their recent talks.

An announcement in New Delhi said the officials of the two countries would also consider Pakistan's draft of a no-war pact and the Indian draft of a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation.

Meanwhile, Pakistan Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik and the president's chief of staff, Lt Gen K.M. Arif, had separate meetings with the Indian minister for external affairs, Narasimha Rao, and senior officials of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi yesterday.

CONGRESS-I PARTY LOSES MAJORITY IN BARODA

BK021623 Hong Kong AFP in English 1227 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 2 (AFP) -- Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress Party has lost the working majoricy in the municipal corporation of Baroda, the city wracked by Hindu-Moslem riots, following resignations of Moslem party members.

The councillors quit over what they called the state administration's failure to curb the disturbances, it was reported.

Nisar Husain, one of the three councillors who resigned from the Congress Party, told the Press Trust of India (PTI) there that the state administration in Gujarat, also controlled by the same party, had failed to stop the trouble and protect innocent and law-abiding people.

Baroda is one of the major towns in the western coastal state.

He said an unattached independent had also withdrawn his support to the Congress, reducing its strength in the 60-member civic body to 25.

The riots, which broke out Wednesday last, have claimed seven lives and left scores injured. Nearly 550 arrests have been made, 102 of them yesterday, in the curfew-bound city. An earlier PTI dispatch said there were no fresh incidents during the day today.

PUNJAB LEADER: FOREIGN SOURCES BEHIND CLASHES

BK021544 Hong Kong AFP in English 1420 GMT 2 Nov 82

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] Chandigarh, Punjab, India, Nov 2 (AFP) -- Foreign sources were behind the autonomy calls by Sikhs that have led to violent clashes in the Punjab, State Chief Minister Darbara Singh charged today in an interview with Agence France-Presse.

"I can list the evidence if and when asked.... But take it from me that the autonomy demand had the backing of foreign elements," Mr Singh, 60, said.

"From where do you think tons and tons of money is coming.... It is being sent from foreign countries," Mr Singh said.

Mr Singh, who heads Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress Party here, accused the leaders of the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, of misleading the people of Punjab, which borders with Pakistan in the west, and making political capital out of the present movement.

"I know them (the leaders) too well.... When they were in power they never bothered for the autonomy or religious demands, but suddenly they have become the torch bearers of the entire Sikh community in the country," he said.

The Akali Dal, which ruled here in 1977-79, is currently leading the protest which, according to political observers, has posed one of the most serious challenges in Mrs Gandhi's political career.

Mr Singh, however, refused to identify the countries or the sources allegedly backing the Sikh autonomy demand. Mr Singh's official residence here looks like a fort. The house is encircled by police tents and armed guards. A team of five sten-gun-carrying policemen throws a security ring around the chief minister whenever he goes out.

"I do not want this high security... I don't give a damn... They cannot kill me," he said and recalled how he escaped with minor splinter injuries when unidentified Sikhs threw a grenade while he was addressing a public meeting in his home district of Rahon, about 100 km (60 miles) north of here last August.

Mr Singh said he had intelligence reports warning him that there could be more attempts on his life.

The Akali Dal, which ruled here for about two years in 1977-79 is currently leading the protest which, according to political observers, has posed one of the most serious challenges in Mrs Gandhi's political career.

"Many of the people who are backing the demand for autonomy are downright terrorists.... My intelligence reports say they could do anything to draw public attention and create problems in the state," he said.

Mr Singh said his official reports on the leadership of the Sikh autonomy movement suggested that the militant faction in the Akali Dal and other associate bodies was gaining ground and the moderates were losing strength.

"It is irony of the state that when we are doing so well in agricultural production and development, the so-called leaders have raised the demands which are harming everybody and especially the common man," he said.

Soon after the interview Mr Singh, who has been chief minister here for nearly three years, left for New Delhi to help federal leaders to hammer out a solution before November 4 -- the day set by the Sikh leaders for launching the "Dharma Yudha" (Sikh holy war).

"We are ready to accept their religious demands with some modifications, but how can you expect us to agree to their political demand which says that Punjab should be made near autonomous with the federal government controlling only defence, communication and currency."

Mr Singh was noncommital when asked if the New Delhi meeting slated for this evening will bring about a settlement.

"I am not very sure. These (Sikh) leaders are unpredictable. They may change their stand any time and often for no logical reason."

Meanwhile, state police sources here said that all arrangements were complete in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar 200 km (120 miles) north of here to counter the November 4, "holy war" threat.

Over 2,500 armed police, backed up by an estimated 4,000 to 6,000 paramilitary forces, have been posted in the city of half a million people.

"We are not leaving anything to chance. If they (Sikh leaders) want to be nasty, we can reply well. Let there be no doubt about that," Mr Singh said.

PUNJAB MINISTERS WARNED OF DEATH THREATS

BK030112 Hong Kong AFP in English 1720 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Chandigarh, Punjab, Nov 2 (AFP) -- The Punjab government today ordered all ministers to cancel public appearances for the next few days following intelligence reports of possible assassination attempts by militant Sikhs demanding autonomy for this sensitive state bordering Pakistan. Officials here said the order was effective from tomorrow. The ministers have been asked to stay in the state capital and not to move anywhere.

The order comes 48 hours before the scheduled launching of the Sikh "holy war" in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, 200 km north of here, on November 4.

The number of policemen guarding the official residences of the ministers here was increased today with the conventional rifles being replaced by sten guns.

The Sikhs' demand for autonomy had often become violent, climaxed by an attempt on Chief Minister (head of administration) Darbara Singh's life recently and attempt to storm the country's parliament in the Indian capital.

Meanwhile, state police sources said they were fully geared up to meet any Sikh threat in the coming days, which will be crucial.

MAJLIS SPEAKER: OPERATION COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL

LD021910 Tehran IRNA in English 1047 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov, 2 (IRNA) -- Majlis Speaker 'Ali 'Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani this morning praised achievements of the Iranian forces in their latest offensive, "Operation Moharram," launched early this morning in south western warfronts. Speaking at the open session of the Majlis, Rafsanjani said "this operation has been completely successful and all its objectives have been fulfilled by the early hours today."

So far some 250 sq. kms. of the Iranian territory which was under Iraqi control for more than 25 months have been liberated in the course of the Moharram operation.

Continuing his remarks on the offensive, Rafsanjani said that a vast area between Faqih and Dehloran, western Iran, as well as strategic heights, key passes and border posts have been retaken from the enemy forces. Liberation of these lands, he added, once again proved to the world that contrary to Saddam Husayn's claims that he had pulled his forces out of Iran, parts of the Iranian territory were still under the control of Iraqi forces.

Rafsanjani further called on foreign journalists to go to warfronts and see the liberated areas for themselves, adding that recovery of this territory in south western Iran, made it clear to the world public opinion that Iran had all along been defending itself and its rights.

In another part of his speech, the Majlis speaker reiterated that Iran was not interested in war. The Islamic Republic wanted peace for the region more than any other country. However, Iran would not forego its rights, he said. He further told Majlis that Iran considered the Iraqi ruler, Saddam Hussayn, an aggressor. "For us peace with Saddam has no meaning and as long as Saddam exists, the word 'peace' should not be used," Rafsanjani added.

"Once our rights have been met, then the issue of truce could be brought up in a manner that rights of the oppressed of the region and those of Iraq in particular, would be ensured," he said.

COMMUNIQUES ISSUED ON MOHARRAM OPERATION

Communique No 1

LD022142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Communique No 1 of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the "Moharram" operation]

[Excerpts] Following the victorious Moharram operation, launched last night under the codename "Zaynab, peace be upon her," the following communique No 1 was released by the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces and the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

The combative Islamic fighters, blessed by divine favor and achieving great victories, are about to engage in another relentless war against the mercenary enemy, thus ending the aggression by the pro-American Saddam, this mercenary element working for global oppressors, and liberating the occupied areas and returning them to Islamic Iran.

O you brave Islamic community: O you Muslim Iranian nation. Your sons, the sons of this martyr-nurturing nation, comprising members of the guards, the Islamic Corps of Revolution Guards mobilization, and the brave personnel of the Islamic Republic Army, launched the Moharram operations, codenamed "O Zaynab," peace be upon her, at 2208 yesterday. The operations were launched under the command of Karbala' headquarters in the southwestern sector of the country.

The operations achieved impressive successes in the early hours. The victorious Islamic combatants succeeded in dealing awesome blows to the Ba'thist-Zionist army and secured the Dehloran-'Eyn-e Khosh road, a road that was under their own control and firing range. This road is now safe from the fire of Saddam's forces.

Our forces also succeeded in establishing complete domination over more than 50 km of strategic border heights in the southwestern sector and liberated a vast area of our country occupied by the Iraqi forces.

In the course of these totally successful operations, our fighters recovered our border oil installations in the southwestern sector from the weakened enemy. These installations are of great importance. They then managed to hoist the Islamic Republic flag over the area. The casualties and damage inflicted on the enemy, as well as the results of Islamic combatants' victories, will be announced subsequently.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces, the Central Headquarters of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Communique No 2

LD021150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Communique No 2 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Excerpt] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

The champion umma' of Islam, the martyr-nurturing nation of Iran, the combatants of Islam, comprising the warriors of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the selfless heroes of the mobilization of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the gendarmerie forces, have followed the launching of the victorious Moharram operations, codenamed O Zaynab, peace be upon her, under the command of the Karbala' headquarters, with considerable victories and have succeeded in inflicting heavy damage and casualties on the aggressive enemy.

These operations, which cover a much larger area than that covered in the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operations, have up to now succeeded in pushing the enemy back, taking the Dehloran-'Eyn-e Khosh road out of the enemy's firing range. This road was under the occupation and within the firing range of the aggressive enemy for more than 2 years.

The important and strategic Basra-Baghdad road is now within artillery firing range. Also, in these victorious operations, the forces of Islam have succeeded in taking complete control over the strategic border heights in the southwest of the country and have liberated the [name indistinct] situated on the border zone. A large number of aggressive Saddamists have been killed or wounded.

In the victorious Moharram operations, the oil installations belonging to the dear Islamic homeland and situated in the southwest of the country, which were under the occupation of the Ba'thist Zionist Saddamists of Iraq, have been liberated by our combative forces and, as a result, the Bayat oilfield which has several oil wells and produces more than 25,000 barrels of oil per day is now completely under our control.

In the operational region freed from enemy occupation, the important posts of Bayat, Nahr-e Anbar and Cham Sori, situated on the border zone, have been liberated and are under the complete control of the forces of Islam.

In these victorious operations, a large number of Ba'thist mercenaries were killed or wounded. A considerable number of enemy forces have been captured by the forces of Islam. A large number of Iraqi military personnel were captured in one of the operational zones by the sons of Islam.

Also, at 0803 today, one of the planes belonging to the aggressive enemy was downed by the fast flying fighter planes of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in one of the operational regions.

Further reports will be brought to the attention of the Muslim and martyr-nurturing umma' in other communiques. We hereby request the Muslim and martyr-nuturing umma' to gather in mosques and other places of prayer and pray to Almighty God for the complete and speedy victory of the combatants of Islam over the aggressors and lackeys of world blasphemy.

[Signed] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 3

LD021842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Communique No 3 of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In continuation of the victorious Moharram operations, launched under the command of the Karbala' headquarters -- the center for joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps -- codenamed Zaynab, may peace be upon her; the combatants of Islam, comprising the brave warriors of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the self-sacrificing guards and mobilization forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, with the aid of undiminishing divine power and through God's invisible assistance and with the help of the imam of the era, may God hasten his lofty advent, gave a brave reply to the aggression of the occupying forces of the Iraqi Ba-thist-Zionist regime.

During these victorious o[illegible], the combatants of the Koran, after crossing various types of obstacles such a[illegible]lds, networks of chemical substances, barbed wire and 10-row poles were confron[illegible]e enemy's 10th Armored Division (?together with nine other brigades). The combat[illegible] of Islam inflicted another severe defeat on the 10th Armored Division and other forces of Saddam's invading forces.

In this part of the military operations by noon today, the defenders of the Islamic revolution succeeded in liberating more than 300 sq km of land occupied by the Ba'thist enemy. Several kilometers of enemy territory came under fire from the defenders of the Islamic revolution. The God-loving defenders of the umma' of Islam, during the successful Moharram operations, have so far succeeded in safeguarding the Dehloran-'Eyn-e Knosh highway, which is 100 km long, from enemy fire and have succeeded in returning security to the Musian, Dehloran, 'Eyn-e Knosh and Dasht-e Ajiyeh regions and their surrounding villages. Following these operations, traffic movement to these regions from the Islamic homeland has been restored and large areas of agricultural land have been liberated for farming and are ready for cultivation.

During these victorious operations, the combatants of Islam succeeded in liberating the Hamam Shahab, 'Eyn Mansur, Bayat, Musian, Naqsh 'Anbar and (?Cham Sori) border posts and (?in capturing) the Rabut post. As a result, the Iraqi border posts of Zubaydah, Sharkhani, 'Aliyah, Bijriyah and the gendarmerie base in At-Tib Township came under the pounding artillery fire of our forces. The combatants of Islam so far have succeeded in liberating 50 km of border heights. That is, the Hamrang mountain range and the strategic summits of 290,298 and 400 in the border strip have been liberated from occupation by the aggressive enemy. The combatants of Islam are now positioned on the highest hilltops of the region and a vast plain of Iraqi territory is now within their firing range, and they continue to pound this plain.

Following the victories gained by the defenders of the Islamic homeland during the Moharram operations and after deployment of the combatants of Islam on the above-mentioned heights, the Baghdad-Basra communication route, the At-Tib-Ammarah, At-Tib-Halfa'iyah and At-Tib-'Ali al-Gharbi routes and At-Tib-'Ammarah military and access highway, which is one of Iraq's most important economic and supply routes and an important center for transportation and the linking road from north to south of Iraq, are all in serious danger. The mercenary enemy is facing many difficulties. The vast Iraqi plain east of the River Tigris, from Basra to 'Ali al-Gharbi, is now within firing range of our victorious combatants. By threatening and pounding this region, our combatants are ready to give another lesson to the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist invaders and force them to stop their aggression against the Islamic homeland.

The self-sacrificing warriors of Islam are also able to pound the industrial factory in At-Tib Township and the Zubaydah oil-rich region which has about 70 oil wells. During these victorious operations, the defending forces of the Islamic homeland have killed or wounded a large number of the Saddamist mercenary invaders and have captured another large number. In view of the vastness of the operations, so far more than 500 of the misled Saddamists have been captured behind the battleline. Among the prisoners are several high-ranking Iraqi officers.

A full report of the vast operations by the combatants of Islam, including the statistics on booty, prisoners taken behind the battlelines, dead and wounded of the aggressive enemy and other victories of the divine warriors, will be brought to your attention in subsequent complementary communiques.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,100

LD022206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,100 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] The self-sacrificing combatants of Islam in the western operational sector of the country enjoyed high morale because of the news of honor and victories in the Moharram operations and continued to deliver repeated blows against the disintegrating body of the Saddamist forces, setting ablaze and destroying some of the positions and fortifications of the enemy. Thanks to the fire of our artillery units in this region, one tank, one engineering vehicle, one machingun and several military vehicles of the enemy were destroyed, and several logistic positions of the invaders were annihilated.

Gunfire continued to be exchanged on the Marivan front. Our forces opened fire on tank emplacement, infantry positions and enemy observation posts and inflicted losses and damages on them.

As a result of the artillery fire of the criminal Saddamists, several residential units were destroyed in Abadan yesterday and there were heavy material losses and casualties.

During the past 24 hours, the timely fire of the air defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran repulsed the enemy's air raids and the intruding planes were forced to flee before carrying out any operations.

'LARGE' IRAQI COMMAND CENTER DESTROYED

GF021728 Tehran IRNA in English 1707 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Bakhtaran, Nov 2, IRNA -- A large command centre of the aggressor Iraqis, in the central battlefronts, was smashed and many Iraqis were killed by the fire of the Islamic defenders over the preceding 24 hours.

Also, in these operations, the Iranians destroyed one Iraqi tank, several vehicles and some logistical positions.

Related reports reaching here said that artillery fire exchanges continued between the two sides in the Bakhtaran regions of Bavaisi, Qasr-e Shirin, Sumar and Miyan Tang during this same time.

IRNA SAYS FIGHTING CONTINUES IN ABADAN REGION

GF021734 Tehran IRNA in English 1715 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Abadan, Nov. 2, IRNA -- Four civilians were wounded and two housing units were demolished over the past 24 hours as Abadan's residential quarters were barraged by the longrange Iraqi artillery fire which also set ablaze six sectors.

Meanwhile, fire exchanges continued between the two sides on the Arvand River banks with the Islamic forces holding the upper hand during the same time.

In these operations, eight Iraqis were killed and four others wounded when the Iranians smashed one enemy's communication mast, three group bunkers, two dug-outs and two lookout posts as well as halting the Iraqi vehicles movements on the Al-Faw-Al-Basra logistical route.

In other developments, during the afore-mentioned time, some aggressor Iraqi aircraft violated Abadan's air space seven times but were immediately repulsed, without carrying out any mission, by the Iranian air defense fire.

IRAQI COMMUNICATION ROUTES, SUPPLY LINES CUT

GF030750 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Nov 82

[Text] Reports from the Karbala' joint operations center said that in continuation of the victorious Moharram operations -- which has resulted in magnificent victories for our Islamic nation and during which other occupied parts of the homeland were liberated -- the heroes of Islam, the forces of the Islamic revolution guards and the army and all Muslim combatants in the early hours of today launched a new attack on the positions of the humiliated enemy with the codename "O Zaynab," and are thus once again embodying the will of God.

The heroes of Islam have succeeded in the attack begun last night to reach behind the defense lines of the Ba'thist aggressors and cut off all the enemy's communication routes and supply lines and surrounded large groups of the infidels of the aggressor Saddamist army. In these victorious operations, the soldiers of Islam strengthened their control over the positions and the (?fortifications) that they captured and captured a large group of the aggressors of the Zionist Ba'thist Iraqi Army and killed or wounded another large group.

The heroic soldiers of Islam are now, thanks to God and his help, in full control of the operations in the battle areas. There is another group of the Ba'thist aggressors being besieged by our victorious soldiers.

We will supply the struggling Islamic nation with a full report on these operations [words indistinct].

IRNA CITES MOHARRAM OFFENSIVE POW FIGURES

GF021732 Tehran IRNA In English 1705 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Qaem, HQ. Nov 2, IRNA -- More than 500 aggressor Iraqis were captured during the massive Moharram offensive which was successfully launched by the Islamic defenders in the south-western fronts at 22:08 hours local time Monday, according to the latest counting.

In one of the axes of Moharram theatre alone, 117 Iraqi Ba'thists were taken captive while many others were killed and a large area of the Iranian territory and strategic border heights were liberated.

CORRESPONDENT INTERVIEWS CAPTURED OFFICERS

LD021836 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Report by correspondent of the Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Among the hundreds of POW's moved behind the front by the early hours of this morning, a number of officers of the Saddamist regime could be seen.

Maj (Ahmad Salim Majid), deputy CO of the 1st Battalion of the 306th Brigade of Iraq's 10th Division, (Abd az-Zahra 'Abbud) [words indistinct], deputy CO of the Artillery Battalion; and (Ghalib Jawad Kazim), an officer in the Iraqi Mortar Battalion -- all captured in the Musian region by victorious troops of the Islamic army -- granted an interview to the Central News Unit correspondent, in which they reveal Saddam's crimes and those of the Iraqi Zionist Ba'thist Party. They noted that before the despotic Ba'thist regime, headed by Saddam Husayn came to power, the Iraqi nation had never faced the problems which it has faced over the past 2 years and that Saddam's claim of seeking peace following his disgraceful defeats by the Islamic Republic of Iran is only a weapon to save the Iraqi 'Aflaqite Ba'thist regime.

(Ghalib Jawad Kazim), another Iraqi officer who took part in this interview, announced that the Iraqi Army had information about the attack to be launched by the forces of Islam to retrieve the occupied territories and, therefore, had added two fully-equipped brigades to its forces already deployed on the strategic heights in the Dehloran, Musian and Eyn-e Khosh region. Nevertheless, it could not resist the assault launched by Islam's antiblasphemy forces.

In connection with the way in which Islam's combatants treated Iraqi POW's and praising the humane Islamic behavior of the Iranian combatant brothers, they rebutted the rumors circulated by the deceiving Iraqi regime about the so-called torture and execution of Iraqi POW's by the Iranians as being totally baseless.

The captured Iraqi officer, describing the disorderly internal situation in Iraq and the rampant oppression and insecurity, also referred to the shortages of public necessities in Iraq and then speaking about the Arabic language broadcasts of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran said: The Iraqi people are greatly interested in listening to these programs. However, they know that if they are caught by Saddam's forces, they would be sentenced to long prison terms.

Moharram Offensive Viewed

GF021709 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Qaem HQ. Nov. 2, IRNA -- Despite the reinforcement of the Iraqi troops, in the operation region, in order to counter the Iranian forces, the Monday night's offensive of the Islamic combatants was so rapid that the Iraqis were soon surrounded.

This was said by Major Ahmad Khalil Majid, commander of the 1st Battalion of the 606th Brigade of Iraq, who was taken captive, along with several other Iraqi high ranking officers, during the successful Moharram operation in the southern fronts.

Related reports reaching here added that the Iraqi POW's, captured by the Iranian forces during Monday night and Tuesday were still being transferred behind the fronts as of 11:00 hours Tuesday.

GOVERNMENT REJECTS NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR

GF021706 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 2 IRNA -- Iran today announced that it will refuse to accept the new French ambassador to Tehran. This decision of the Islamic Republic Government was officially conveyed to the French charge d'affaires here, who was summoned to the Foreign Ministry this morning.

The reason that the Islamic Republic will not accept the newly appointed French ambassador, Mr Jose Paoli, is because of the French support for terrorists and counterrevolutionaries.

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic has stressed that as long as this hostile attitude of the French Government towards the Muslim people of Iran continues, and until France remains to be a a secure shelter for the munafiqeen (MKO) terrorists, relations between the two countries will not improve.

HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI GIVES 29 OCTOBER SERMON

LD291700 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Our homeland's Muslim and ever-alert nation, stricken to their very souls with grief in morning for the heart-rendering demise of the prince of the knights of the universe, the Holy Aba 'Abdullah al-Husayn, and for the oppression and injustice meted out to the martyrs of Karbala', armed with unshakable will in continuing along the red path of those who gave their lives on 'Ashura to wage relentless battle against world blasphemy and polytheism, and with hearts brimming with hatred and revulsion against Yazid and his followers for all time, today enthusiastically left for the places of worship to hold the Friday prayers rites to renew their covenant with the creator of the universe, to safeguard unstintingly the Muhammadan tradition, to manifest their unbeakable unity and cohesion and to hold even more auspiciously than ever this magnificent rite of Islam.

Tehran's God-seeking and hezbollahi citizens of Tehran, in step with our other struggling, monotheistic compatriots, with their monolithic presence in the closed ranks of the Friday prayers ceremony in the meeting place of the true followers of the path of righteousness and the safe haven of the seekers of God, Tehran University, observed the prayer rites under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam va al-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani today.

In his first prayer sermon today, Tehran's provisional Friday imam continued the discourse on Islamic justice in the economic sector and Islam's orientation toward a society devoid of the meek and the arrogant and dealt with income from services.

Referring to the request by certain Iranians who live abroad to return to Iran to serve in various institutions, Tehran's provisional Friday imam said: I beg to ask our hezbollahi brothers to refrain from being too stringent in the choice of yardsticks in selecting colleagues. As the revolutionary representatives of the people, you should not give yourselves the right, by adopting an illogical and inappropriate severity, to drive away people who are desirous of serving.

Tehran's provisional Friday imam emphasized: We respect those who work well and who wish to work well and correctly, and should they deviate from the course at one stage or another, we would return them to the path. He reminded: Presently there are a great many scientific personalities and advanced and progressive brains in our country who are engaged in rendering services and their services are appreciated.

Addressing himself to those Iranians who are living abroad, Tehran's provisional Friday imam said: We have immense plans for the reconstruction of the realm and we need you. However, if you delay your return, other people will take your place. The main thing is that you should return; if you are late, it would not matter, although you would be left behind.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Apart from terrorists, smugglers and those who perpetrate corruption, the rest of the people, provided they seek to act correctly and in a healthy manner, could return to Iran, the people are prepared to forget their ugly pasts. As for those who do not wish to remain in Iran, I do not think the government would bar their way.

Continuing his first sermon and referring to the so-called seeking of political asylum by certain corrupt officials who are remnants of the former regime and attached to Iranian embassies from imperialist countries, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said:

[Begin recording] I don't think the government would in the least attempt to bar the way of those unwilling to remain in Iran, although those who shoulder political or financial responsibilities and should not leave are another issue. Otherwise, all others can go anywhere they want. The upshot of this is that a number of people do not want to live in this Islamic realm. Thus, when four persons come along and declare: We are political refugees in Norway or any other particular place [words indistinct] these people's state of affairs is well known [words indistinct]. The Foreign Ministry has been slow in investigating the embassies and the tasks now being carried out should have been done 2 or 3 years ago. Because we were slow, a number of satanical people remained in the embassies and of those we sent a number were (?incompetent). For instance, they were hypocritical or work-shy, and so they left. This is one aspect of the issue.

We recently investigated our embassies thoroughly. (?We found out that a number of people) are undesirable. They were either SAVAKists and not prepared to reform or were engaging in dirty work and had corrupt morals, or were treasonable and passed embassy secrets to others, or were not prepared to serve Islam. We have secrets in every country; we make purchases; we have immediate purchases. These people know this and pass this information to the enemy. The Foreign Ministry decided to recall those who were suspect or corrupt; those people realized what was happening and issued instructions that [words indistinct]. Some of these people are healthy and not too corrupt and prefer to return home to other jobs. Others cannot return. Their dossiers (?are known); should they come back, they could not work and they themselves know this perhaps better than we do. Thus, the moment we terminate them, they immediately go to the foreign ministries of countries where they serve, saying: We are political refugees and declare our loyalty to Bani-Sadr's resistance council.

The embassy member whose thievery comes to light seeks asylum first of all in those hapless imperialist countries who imagine that (?they can use these thieves) and immediately publish reports in the press.

The people who grant them asylum are weak and those who rejoice at this are weak. How unfortunate are those people who seek asylum and try to deal a blow at the Islamic Republic by behaving in this manner. This is nothing to us. If seeking asylum was of any value, it is that of those Afghan nationals who flee under the Russians' hail of fire and come to Iran where we give them jobs and money to live. This is the sort of meek person to whom it is worth giving asylum.

The Iraqi who flees from the evil of Saddam and travels on foot from Baghdad to Bakhtaran, and you have seen pictures of many of such people in the rain, this is the sort of asylum worth granting, God willing. However, you people never publish reports on them! When a person has a dossier of theft and treason against his government and has been terminated, can such a person be called a refugee? What value has he? His type has been with us throughout time.

Should we want to act as the materialist communist revolutions did, we would have built a wall around ourselves from the first day and [words indistinct]. However, the Islamic Republic did not do this. It investigated their dossiers one by one. Many of them have remained; many have reformed and many others have left without being reformed. Thus I propose to the government, God willing, let us open the borders to those who want to leave the country and let those who want to return do so.

Hojjat ol-Eslam va al-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in the prayers' second sermon, continuing last week's talk on the gains of the Islamic revolution and the services rendered by the revolution to the world of Islam and the oppressed, said: The Islamic revolution is similar to the revolution of Husayn ibn 'Ali, peace be upon him, and the fact that I mention the political, economic, social, cultural, scientific and technical gains of the revolution does not mean that today we have achieved all our goals and have no shortfalls. It means that despite all difficulties, shortages and shortcomings,we have achieved relatively spectacular objectives. We should note the state the country was in when we took over and the state it is in now. Of course, we have a long way ahead of us.

Referring to Iran's suggestion regarding the expulsion of the regime occupying Jerusalem from the United Nations, he said: Nobody expected such a small country, which is at war, to shake the world in an international forum to such extent.

Regarding the closure of universities and some people's remarks that the Islamic Republic is against knowledge, he said: This closure was like the closures at the beginning of the revolution which led to the downfall of the shah's regime and wiped out satanic thoughts and morale left from the imperial regime. Whereas many people thought the closure of universities was only a pretext to remove leftist thought and people, of course it was not only that but also the effect of the revolution on child culture. They insisted that the content of lectures must be altered and for this reason they staged a cultural revolution. We hope the universities will open soon with richer contents.

Referring to the culture of the Imperial Army and comparing it to the faith present in our army now, he said: This army is now twice as strong as it was 25 months ago and can fight for another 10 years. Referring to imperialists' rumors on the inability of our forces on the grounds that it is incapable of bombing the Iraqis' positions, he refuted this allegation, saying: If we wanted to forget about Islamic and humane values, we could pound the Iraqi positions and cities with guns.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani then referred to the readiness of the 20-million-man people's mobilization: With the extensive military power we now have, if all the superpowers with all their potential come to fight us, we will have the power to defend ourselves and to confront them. The provisional Friday imam of Tehran also emphasized: The Islamic Republic of Iran is now able to supply its main armament requirements inside the country and has no worry in this regard.

Referring to the mourning of the Husaynite 'Ashura, he said people who mourn the Karbala' martyrs at a time when they have their own martyrs are the backbone of this revolution.

He also referred to the active presence of the Guards Corps forces on the battlefront and on the internal front for the fight against the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization and talked about the discovery and neutralization of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organizations through the presence of the 36-million-strong intelligence organizations of the people, emphasizing: The program that has been planned to fight internal counterrevolution and to enforce security is miraculous.

In conclusion he said he hopes that by the extensive efforts of all forces, the country will be built thoroughly and in such a way that even grounds for imperialist propagandists' libels will disappear.

SUCCESSES AGAINST 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' CITED

LD291748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] The following statement was issued by the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters in connection with the victorious operations launched by the defenders of the Islamic revolution to counter the domestic agents of global oppressors.

In His exalted name. The selfless and devoted combatants of the Islamic army, emulating their master Imam Husayn, peace be upon him, are continuing their struggle against international blasphemy and its domestic agents and are defending the glorious Islamic revolution. During the past 2 days, the Islamic defenders, comprising valiant Islamic Republic Army personnel, members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, members of the oppressed mobilization units and Muslim tribesmen, following a series of victorious operations, succeeded in mopping up another 13 km of the Piranshahr-Sar Dasht road controlled by the counterrevolutionaries affiliated with global oppression.

In the course of these operations, 11 villages and several important heights in the region were recovered by the Islamic combatants, while dozens of armed rebels were killed or wounded. Moreover, one fieldgun was seized, along with a certain quantity of weapons and ammunition and a considerable number of documents.

[Signed] The Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, the center of joint operations by the Islamic Republic Army and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

'MINIGROUP' NETWORK DISCOVERED; ARRESTS MADE

GF291304 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 13 Oct 82 p 2

[Text] Mashhad -- Following the discovery of a terrorist network of the hypocrite minigroup in Torbat-e Heydariyeh, 25 members of this network were arrested.

The Islamic revolution prosecutor's office of this province has announced that due to the efforts of brother citizens and the 36-million-strong intelligence organization, 25 members of the terrorist network of the hypocrite minigroup were arreted in Torbat-e Heydariyeh Province and Khaf District. The arrestees were handed over to the Islamic revolution prosecutor's office of Torbat-e Heydariyeh.

CLANDESTINE RADIO DESCRIBES RECAPTURE OF BUKAN

GF011811 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Bukah has fallen. The Kurdish city of Bukan, which was in the claws of the agents of the usurping so-called Islamic regime for some time, has been recaptured by the fighting Kurdish forces.

According to news agency dispatches, in the bloody clashes for the recapture of the city, a number of the regime's guards were annihilated and some were taken prisoner. A Kurdish spokesman in Paris announced that during the clashes, 80 of Khomeyni's mercenary guards were annihilated. The latest efforts by the Kurdish fighters reportedly was due to the strategic importance of Bukan, which is the gateway for entering Kordestan through West Azarbayjan. Since the start of the war between the guards of the illegal Khomeyni regime and the Kurdish fighters, the city has changed hands several times.

Also, according to a report by our correspondent in Paris, a group of Kurdish Iranians living in France has cabled French President Mitterrand and has explained the criminal actions of the Khomeyni regime. The Iranian Kurds have asked Mitterrand to stop the massacre of innocent civilians in the Kurdish areas of Iran in the hands of Khomeyni's regime in any manner possible.

The text of the cable:

The facist and so-called religious regime of Khomeyni, since its establishment in Iran and especially in the past few days, has made the life of Iranian Kurds so miserable that if the countries defending human rights do not take any action, the entire Kurdish population will disappear within a short time. The Kurds of Kordestan wish only for a free life in the province within Iran. The people of the province are well informed about the geophysical issues of the area and want to be able to live within Iran. The fascist and reactionary Khomeyni regime is destroying any movement opposing dictatorship. We bow to the free world's condemnations of all the calamities created by dictatorships and hope that such condemnations by the free world will continue.

However, is the murder of thousands of people of Iran's Kordestan any less important than the banning of the labor unions in Poland? Honorable French president, history will make a judgment about you should you answer the call of 5 million Iranian Kurds who only seek the right to live. In the name of the French nation, which has always fought for freedom and democracy, by using any means at your disposal, stop the murder of the defenseless people of Iran's Kordestan.

[Signed] Respectfully, the Iranian Kurds living in France

IRNA REPORTS SAYYAD-SHIRAZI DENIAL ON BUKAN

GF011630 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Urumiyeh, Nov 1, IRNA -- The commander of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic today said that the town on Bukan, in East Azarbayjan Province, was in control of the Islamic forces.

Speaking in the morning ceremonies of the 64th Army of Urumiyeh here today, Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi said that despite the lies and propaganda spread by the imperialist powers, the town was not in control of the counterrevolutionaries.

He also commented about the imposed war saying that it was clear that peace could not be achieved with the so-called peace missions because they were influenced by the U.S. He added that with the help of God, the only way to gain the rights of the Islamic Republic from Iraq was by the continuation of the war until final victory.

Meanwhile some 100 counterrevolutionaries, with the support of Iraqi artillery fire, launched an attack on the (Sheykhan) heights, south of the border city of Nowsud in Bakhtaran Province on Saturday morning.

According to a report by the daily KEYHAN, the rebels were repelled and severely crushed by the Islamic forces in the region. It added that the counterrevolutionaries had crossed the Iraqi border into the region and were finally forced to retreat on the same day back into Iraqi territory, leaving many of their forces killed or wounded.

Feeling the crunch by the Islamic forces' recent victories in the Kordestan, Bakhtaran (formerly Kermanshahan), and East Azarbayjan Provinces, the counterrevolutionaries are taking last chance attempts to regain their positions.

COMMENTARY ON EGYPT'S RETURN TO ARAB FOLD

GF020820 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Has the Mubarak regime returned to the arms of the American Arabs?

Mubarak still has only one more round after which diplomatic relations between him and the reactionary regimes will be restored. [passage indistinct] The steps to normalize Arab-Egyptian relations have been prepared very carefully and with full coordination. The concerned parties have played the roles assigned to them and Egypt has only to go the last round after which the goal of imperialist circles will be achieved. How have these steps been formulated and when will the result be known? [sentence indistinct]

It seems that the Zionist Egyptian regime is in a race with time these days. It left no event or incident in the region unexploited for its goals and reckless policy. Also, there seems a close connection between what is going on in the arena of conflict in the region and the regime's attempts to normalize its relations with the reactionary regimes. The Israeli armed invasion of Lebanon has paved the way for these regimes. The Arab reactionary regimes can now talk about the necessity of normalizing relations with the Egyptian regime under the slogan of a unified Arab fold, Arab solidarity and the mobilization of Arab energies to confront Israel. This step was followed by a show by the Mubarak regime. It recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv to make the public see it was angry at Israel's actions in Lebanon and upset about the savage massacre perpetrated by the Zionist enemy against the Palestinian refugees [words indistinct]. The Israeli response was made in a way to fool the public into believing that there was a strain in Egyptian-Israeli relations. However, these acts in the play were not enough to pave the way for rapprochement between Mubarak and other rulers and regimes. The task needed a new trick [words indistinct] (?the complicated key of the Camp David accords) in Arab-Egyptian relations, according to the Israeli view. Once this problem is solved everything will become easy and Egypt's return to the Arab fold will become a legitimate matter that does not contradict the decisions adopted at the Baghdad Arab summit conference.

Observers of the development of Egyptian-Israeli relations see that the new trick is the fabricated problem over the Tabah district. The Israeli Government insists on using this district under the pretext that the area is designated for tourism. However, the goal is something else. It is to show Israel abandoning the Camp David accords in order to allow Egypt to adopt a similar stand. The Arab reactionary regimes then can say that Egypt has left the Camp David fold.

The people pushing this fallacy have forgotten that the main problem with Mubarak regime is not its being tied to Israel by a public agreement that easily can be terminated. The problem is that this regime is orbitting the course of imperialism, being lead by Israeli-like thinking leaders, and serving imperialist and Zionist interests. These are the roots of the problem that caused the Arabs to adopt a unified position on this regime during the reign of the toppled As-Sadat. Hence, any attempt to show that Israeli-Egyptian relations are strained and to take advantage of Mubarak's stand on the Saddam regime to view it as part of the Arab cause will be shattered on the rock of enhancing massive awareness that still terms Mubarak as an agent and accomplice of the enemies as long as this regime is [words indistinct] with Camp David.

The new round, as we have said, will take place either through the outlet of Egyptian-Iraqi relations or Egyptian-Palestinian relations. So what will be the result of this round? This depends on the return ofthe reactionary regimes' delegations to their countries following their visits to Cairo because in the files of these delegations lies the answer.